



Braunstone Town **PARISH PLAN**



- *Supplementary Planning Guidance and to Inform the Review of the Local Plan*



- *A way to influence decisions by other authorities*
- *A basis for action by the people in the Town*



- *A route to winning funds for local initiatives*



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Contents

Braunstone Town	Page 2
Objectives and Methodology	Page 3
Acknowledgements	Page 5
Traffic & Transport	Page 6
Crime & Community Safety	Page 8
Leisure & Recreation	Page 9
Education	Page 10
Libraries	Page 11
Health	Page 12
Planning	Page 13
Parish Plans Proposal Map	Centre Pages
Environment	Page 17
Young People & Leisure	Page 18
Action Plan	Page 19
Appendix A	
Appendix B and Appendix C	

Produced with the assistance and funding from:-



R C C

**Rural Community Council
(Leicestershire & Rutland)**



Braunstone Town Council





Braunstone Town

Braunstone Town is the most densely populated area in Blaby District and one of the largest parishes in England (494 hectares).

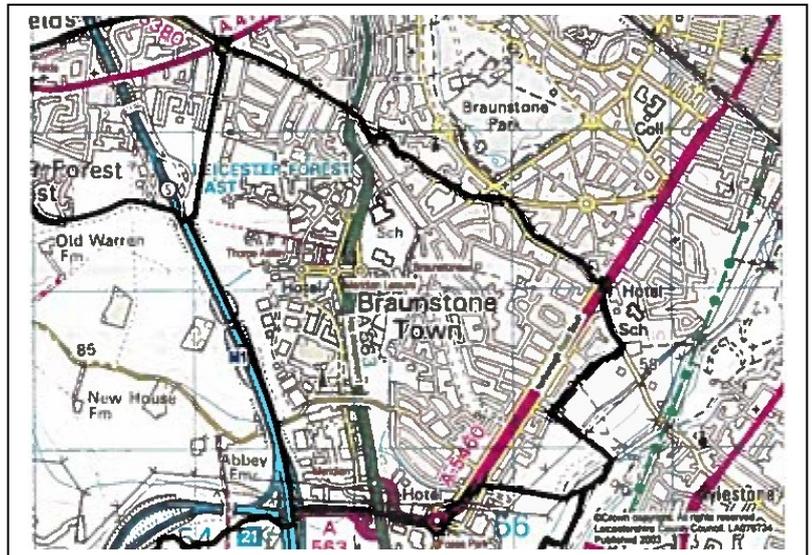
The settlement of Braunstone was mentioned in the Domesday Book (1068). It remained a small picturesque village with a population of around 200 people until Leicester Corporation purchased its Braunstone Hall estate in 1925.

In 1935 the part of Braunstone on the city side of Braunstone Lane became the North Braunstone Ward of the City of Leicester, and the parish of Braunstone in compensation had part of Lubbethorpe added to its boundary.



Braunstone's population rose to 6,997 in 1931. Since this time it has expanded as a mainly residential area and now has a population in excess of 15,122. Braunstone adopted 'Town' status in 1977. In 1994 planning consent was granted for the new Thorpe Astley residential development – to date over 1000 houses have been built and occupied. Other new residential developments which have recently received planning consent include the Thomas Cook and Jones & Shipman sites.

Braunstone Town is situated south of the City of Leicester at the M1/M69 Junction 21. Due to its excellent transport links, the area has also attracted some large scale commercial developments including the Meridian Business Park and the Warner Brothers' Leisure Village.



These, together with Fosse Park and Grove Farm Triangle Shopping Centres located adjacent to the southern boundary of the Town provide excellent employment and shopping opportunities.



Objectives

To set out a vision of what is important, how new development can best be fitted in, how to preserve valued local features and to map out facilities which the community needs to safeguard for the future.

Rural White Paper

- To secure the adoption as Supplementary Planning Guidance, measures identified by the community to improve and endorse the quality of the built environment.
- To engage with statutory bodies, agencies, individuals and organisations with regard to community priorities and local needs.
- To help develop a strong, secure, self reliant, self-confident community, free from unlawful discrimination.
- To establish a vision for the future.



Revitalise Our Town

Methodology

In August 2001, Braunstone Town Council secured funding for the production of a Parish Plan. The Council worked in close co-operation with the Rural Community Council in order to secure the grant. Invitations to attend public meetings at four different venues throughout the Town were issued to every household via 'The Life' community newspaper.

The first of four meetings was held on 18th February 2002 at Braunstone West Social Centre. The attendance was positive and everyone had issues they wished to discuss such as environmental problems. All the highlighted problems were points that would be raised within the report.

The second meeting held on 22nd February was at the Millfield Community Centre and again the attendance was promising, displaying signs of interest within the area. Everyone believed the Parish Plan would be a benefit to Braunstone Town but there was general concern as to the size of Brauntone Town and how many volunteers there would be to do the Plan.

The third meeting took place at the Civic Centre on 25th February and the attendance was even better than the previous two with more interest from the younger generation, which was encouraging. The main topic of discussion was facilities for the youth and it was explained that the Parish Plan would open doors to other funding sources to improve existing youth facilities or build new facilities.

Finally, the last meeting, but certainly not the least, was held in the Thomas Cook Pub on Narborough Road South. Although the attendance was the lowest out of the four meetings, the interest and enthusiasm was very evident during the meeting. A number of issues concerning the residents in that area were raised, such as the lack of community centres in the area and environmental problems in the subways.

The aims of these meetings were to firstly make residents aware of the potential of the Parish Plan for Braunstone Town and to recruit volunteers to undertake the task of producing the report. The reasoning behind the venues of the meetings was to ensure we had volunteers that were representative from each area of Braunstone Town. It is a large area and it was important that all Wards were covered.

"We urge you to seize this opportunity and give everyone in your community the chance to plan for their future."

Alun Michael
Minister for Rural Affairs, Defra

Volunteers from the four 'interest meetings' attended the first meeting of the Parish Plan Group on 28th March 2002. The Group adopted a constitution with the following aims.

- (a) Carry out a Parish Plan of Braunstone Town to determine its needs and deficiencies.
- (b) To encourage and promote new and existing community initiatives.
- (c) Where feasible, to progress these initiatives or actions. Otherwise to pass results to the appropriate local government agency for action via the Parish Plan protocol.
- (d) To obtain statistical information to influence statutory authorities and other decision-making bodies on issues which affect the Town.
- (e) To allow everyone a chance to have their say on local issues.
- (f) To work closely with Braunstone Town Parish Council on all matters regarding the Plan.

Many more meetings of the Group followed under the chairmanship of Councillor Roy Dixon. It was decided to carry out a survey to find out how local residents felt about local issues such as planning, transport, education, crime, the environment, leisure, health and facilities for young people. The working group of volunteers decided on the questions to be included in the survey. Other local authorities and partners including the District Council and Braunstone Town Youth Council were also consulted.

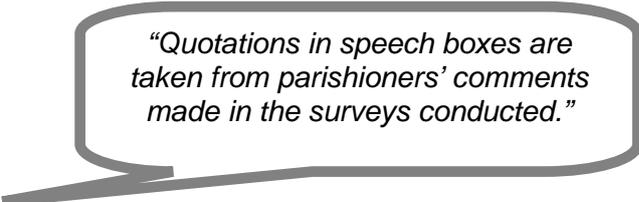
In July 2003, 7500 Questionnaires were distributed throughout Braunstone Town. Updates from the Working Group and a copy of the Questionnaire were available on the Town Council's Website. Some 1225 Forms were completed and returned which represented a 16.3% response rate.

Following the survey the issues and the priorities for action discussed at a meeting of the Parish Plan Group, groups and authorities capable of moving the actions forward were identified.

Following the extensive community consultation and based on information obtained through surveys, research and community participation, the Working Group produced the Draft Plan. An exhibition was held at the Braunstone Civic Centre on 4th October 2003 and a copy of the Draft Plan published on the Website. Following consultation with the public and our potential partners, realistic priorities and time-scales were set.

In preparing the Plan, reference was also made to the following documents:-

- Blaby District Local Plan
- Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Structure Plan
- Central Leicestershire Local Transport Plan
- Thorpe Astley Community Appraisal Results - March 2000
- Braunstone Town Council Local Transport Needs Survey – November 2001
- Braunstone Town Youth Council Survey
- Sports Development Plan for Braunstone Town
- Blaby District Council and Leicestershire County Council Community Strategies



“Quotations in speech boxes are taken from parishioners’ comments made in the surveys conducted.”

Acknowledgements

Members of the Working Group as follows who put in a considerable amount of their own personal time on a volunteer basis to devise the questionnaire, organise distribution and the production of this report:-

Councillor Mr R Dixon (Chairman of the Parish Plan Working Group and Blaby District and Braunstone Town Councillor), Councillor Mr R Berrington (Blaby District and Braunstone Town Councillor), Mrs E Bird, Councillor Mr N Brown (Leicestershire County and Braunstone Town Councillor), Mr O Brown, Mr P Brown, Mr J Dodd, Councillor Mrs J Fox (Blaby District and Braunstone Town Councillor), Councillor Mr P Fox (Blaby District and Braunstone Town Councillor), Mrs P Gould, Community Development Co-ordinator, Blaby District Council, Mr & Mrs D Hirst, Mr & Mrs Iwaniuk, Ms B Sinclair.

Our thanks to:

Hannah Ferguson and Rebecca Bishop from Rural Community Council (Leicestershire & Rutland) for their advice and guidance throughout the production of the Parish Plan.

Lydia Charles for inputting the results of each questionnaire onto the database.

The Parish Plan Working Group would particularly like to thank all Braunstone Town residents who took the time to complete the Parish Plan Questionnaire.



Traffic & Transport

THE ISSUES:

- Parked Vehicles
- Speeding Vehicles / Reduction of speed limits
- Pavements
- Asda Island
- Public Transport
- Access to Schools

THE VISION

- Considerate parking and improved disabled access
- Speed reduction throughout the Town and to ensure vehicles are driven with care and consideration
- Improved accessibility for people with disabilities and pushchair users
- The Asda Island to be made as safe as possible
- A co-ordinated public transport system that is more responsive to people's needs
- Reduce traffic at peak times and minimise the 'school run'

PARKED VEHICLES

The Parish Plan survey asked what problems residents experienced due to traffic in Braunstone Town. 54.7% thought that parked vehicles caused problems. 40% of respondents supported more traffic calming and speed reduction measures. Respondents identified the following areas where problems occurred:- Ayston Road, Kingsway, Ravenhurst Road, Braunstone Lane and Wardens Walk. Parked vehicles caused problems for people with disabilities or with pushchairs at Ayston Road and Braunstone Lane.

SPEEDING VEHICLES

55% of respondents were concerned at speeding traffic. When asked what measures they would support to reduce the problems of speeding vehicles 30.2% would like the speed limits to be reduced and 22% would like improved warning signs, road markings and mini-roundabouts.



CYCLE ROUTES

58.4% of respondents never used a bicycle and 23.4% only cycled occasionally. Of these 36% rated the facilities for cyclists as satisfactory or good. Only 25.3% thought that facilities for cyclists were poor. Of the people who use a bike on a daily basis, 60% used it as a means to get to work.

PAVEMENTS

When asked about improvements to roads, pavements and street lights, the largest area of dissatisfaction was about pavement repairs (27%). People with disabilities or

"I live on Maple Avenue and have to walk on the road because cars are parked on pavements."

with pushchairs experienced problems accessing the subways, crossing at Fosse Park Avenue or the Narborough Road South/Braunstone Lane Junction or accessing local shopping centres.

Traffic & Transport (Continued)

ASDA ISLAND

The Asda Island, Fosse Park Narborough Road junction was considered to be dangerous by over 71.5% of respondents.

“Better sequencing of the Junction 21 peak time traffic-light control.”



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

81% of respondents are infrequent users of the local bus service. 61% said that cheaper fares or improved buses may encourage them to use public transport. People had difficulty getting to the Leicester City General, Glenfield Hospital or the Leicester Royal Infirmary by public transport. 36% said that buses did not go where they need to get to, whilst over 21% said that nothing would encourage them to use the bus service as they liked their cars too much. Only 14% of respondents supported bus priority measures, whereas 30.8% of respondents, expressed support for modern tramway systems.

ACCESS TO SCHOOLS

235 respondents to the survey stated that they have children between the ages of 6 and 18. 29.7% of those use their car to take their children to school whereas 56.1% of those respondents' children walked to school. 32.3% of the children used either public bus or school bus facilities.



Crime & Community Safety

THE ISSUES:

- Effective Policing
- Street Lighting
- CCTV

EFFECTIVE POLICING

37% of respondents had either witnessed or been a victim of crime within the last three years. They had been affected by:-

- Assault or other violent crime – 2%
- Burglary – 13.3%
- Car Crime – 18.7%
- Discovery of drug equipment – 0.9%
- Drunkenness or anti-social behaviour – 10.9%
- Mugging/Robbery – 0.9%
- Offers of Drug Substances – 0.3%
- Racist Attacks – 0.7%
- Theft – 7.8%
- Vandalism – 15.8%

Those not directly affected by crime had been witness to vandalism (11.6%), and/or drunkenness or anti-social behaviour

(11.3%). It appears, therefore, that people's perception of these crimes is a serious issue and should be given high priority by the Police. Over 51% of respondents thought that the effectiveness of policing was either 'inadequate' or 'poor'.

"It's reassuring to see a police officer on the street, either on foot, bike or motorcycle."

THE VISION

- A higher profile and a more visible police service that is responsive to the needs of the Town
- Improve street lighting in locations where there is a fear of crime
- CCTV in areas where there is a fear of crime

STREET LIGHTING

79.2% of respondents considered street lighting to be satisfactory or good. However some areas where better quality street lights are required were highlighted in the survey. In order of priority these were Thorpe Astley (including Jewsbury and Murby Way), Braunstone Lane/St Mary's Avenue Junction, the Narborough Road South subways and the jitties at Millfield School and Camden Road.

CCTV

33.3% of respondents wanted CCTV systems to be located in the subways if funding was made available. In order of priority respondents identified need for systems to also be installed in alleyways and footpaths followed by parks and play areas.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH GROUPS

Whilst Braunstone Town employs a part-time Neighbourhood Watch Development Officer who supports 72 Schemes throughout the Town, over 70% of respondents to the survey stated that they were not a member of a Neighbourhood Watch Group.

Leisure & Recreation

THE ISSUES:

- Raising Awareness of Social and Sporting Opportunities
- Community Centre / Thorpe Astley
- Swimming

SOCIAL AND SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES

27.8% of residents used Braunstone Civic Centre at least once a month on average. The next most popular venue was Winstanley Community College with 12% of the population visiting it at least once a month. The most popular sporting activities were bowling and swimming, martial arts and football. The Parish Plan Survey asked for local residents' comments on recreational matters and in order of priority the following additional sporting opportunities required were a local gym, skateboarding and golf. 51% said they would participate in swimming at some time. Some respondents commented they would participate if the opening hours were extended.



Local residents indicated that they may join the following clubs which are listed in order of priority:- Arts and crafts groups/classes, fitness, dancing and yoga. One reason why people did not attend social clubs was because they did not have the time. Other factors that would encourage people to attend

included raising awareness of existing activities and more convenient location of clubs, etc.

Braunstone Town Council has actively supported a bid for funding to the New Opportunities Fund for a £200k project based at Winstanley Community College. The project includes a Multi-use Games Area with floodlighting and new changing rooms.

The Sports Development Plan for Braunstone Town and consultations with user groups have demonstrated that there is a demand for this type of facility which would accommodate football training sessions which will, in turn, free up existing indoor accommodation so as to enable other forms of sporting activity to be developed.

"A club or such would be nice for Narborough Road South residents. There's absolutely nothing to do this side of the District."

THE VISION

- To raise awareness of all local sporting and leisure opportunities
- To provide a new Community Centre (Thorpe Astley)
- To encourage more opportunities for swimming

COMMUNITY CENTRE THORPE ASTLEY

In 1995 representatives from the consortium of house buildings confirmed that they would transfer a half-acre site to Braunstone Town Council without charge. The site is currently in an area that may be required for a Motorway Junction between the M1 and M69. The Thorpe Astley Community Appraisal completed in March 2000 identified a need for Indoor Sport/Badminton (51%) together with a meeting / function room (30%) and 38.9% of residents identified a need for a pre-school playgroup.

ACCESS TO MERIDIAN LEISURE FACILITY

63.9% of residents regularly visit the Meridian / Warner Village Complex. 15.6% of local residents who responded to the Parish Plan Survey stated that they had transport difficulties getting to the Meridian Complex.

Education



THE ISSUES:

- Adult Education
- Pre-School

ADULT EDUCATION

56.9% of respondents to the Parish Plan Survey stated that they do not or have never used adult community education courses principally at Winstanley Community College. About 28% of those people stated that the classes were not appropriate or the subjects on offer were not of interest. 18% were not interested in Adult Education.



A small percentage of people commented that they were unaware of the courses offered and that class times were inconvenient.

“Very impressed with the night classes offered at Winstanley. Only wish I had more time!!”

THE VISION

- Raise awareness of Adult Education opportunities
- Increase pre-school activities in Braunstone Town

PRE-SCHOOL

Of those residents who responded to the survey which stated that they had children under the age of five, 40% stated that there were not enough pre-school spaces available locally. Only 31% of respondents thought that the facilities provided for pre-school education in Braunstone Town were good.

38.9% of residents who responded to the Thorpe Astley Community Appraisal identified a need for a pre-school playgroup.

Libraries



THE ISSUES:

- Raising Awareness of Local Libraries
- Additional Services

LIBRARY USERS

38.9% of respondents to the Parish Plan Survey used a Library. 15% used the Welcombe Avenue Library whilst 4.7% visited the City and 2.6% visited the library at Leicester Forest East. Only 0.5% used the mobile facility at Narborough Road South East Side and Thorpe Astley mainly because they were unaware of the service, however, 38.8% of respondents were not interested in the mobile library service. 33.9% of respondents were not interested in using any of the library services.

ADDITIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES

9.6% of respondents said they would use additional services in the Library. In order of priority, they identified the following services which would encourage them to use the library:-

DVDs/records/videos,
Internet/Email access,
Children's story time and activities, and study areas.



THE VISION

- Increased usage by raising awareness of the opening hours, locations and range of library services available
- Improve the range of services provided in local libraries (particularly for children)

"Braunstone Town is now a large area – the library is the size of a shed so the range of books is limited."

Health

THE ISSUES:

- New Surgery
- Improvement/Expansion of Existing Surgeries

NEW SURGERY

The Parish Plan Survey demonstrated that most people were very satisfied with the facilities provided. It is acknowledged, however, that new housing developments such as Thorpe Astley, Jones & Shipman and Thomas Cook sites will result in demand for additional accommodation and local medical staff.

“A telephone service for minor problems might be useful.”



Meetings with representatives from Braunstone Town Council have been held with the Chief Executive of the South Leicestershire Primary Care Trust and we understand that they are currently trying to find a suitable site.

EXISTING SURGERIES

53.5% of all households were registered with Kingsway Surgery. 14.5% at Forest House and 25.8% elsewhere. The majority of respondents were satisfied with the accessibility of the surgeries, opening times and waiting areas. Only 42% of respondents were however satisfied with the children's facilities provided.

When asked what improvements could be made to the surgeries, respondents put forward the following suggestions in order of priority:- larger accommodation with improved waiting rooms, more parking, improved appointments system for urgent matters and extended opening hours.

“We need a larger surgery with a nice children's area.”

THE VISION

- The provision of a surgery to meet the demands created by new housing developments
- Improved waiting areas and other patient services

Planning



THE ISSUES:

- Preservation of Open Spaces
- Local Shopping Needs
- Preservation of Trees, Hedgerows and Buildings
- Park and Ride Sites
- Air Quality

THE VISION

- Preservation of all existing open spaces and protect them from future development
- Maintain the viability of local shopping centres to meet the needs of the local community
- Retention of all existing trees, hedgerows and historic buildings and protect them from future development
- No Park & Ride site in the vicinity of Junction 21 of the M1 and to protect 'green wedges' from inappropriate future development
- Extension of Air Quality Management Areas, help offset the effects of traffic pollution by encouraging more large scale tree planting schemes on our open spaces

The relevant planning authority for most planning issues is Blaby District Council. The District Council has responsibility for determining planning applications and preparing the Local Plan for the area. The Blaby District Local Plan was adopted on September 1999 and sets out the planning policies and proposals for how Blaby District land is used and developed for the period 1991 to 2006.

PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACES

In addition to the Proposed Public Open Space proposals contained in the Local Plan, other important Open Spaces and frontages were identified by local residents during the preparation of this Parish Plan. These are shown on the 'Parish Plan Proposals Map' attached to this document and listed at Appendix 'A'.



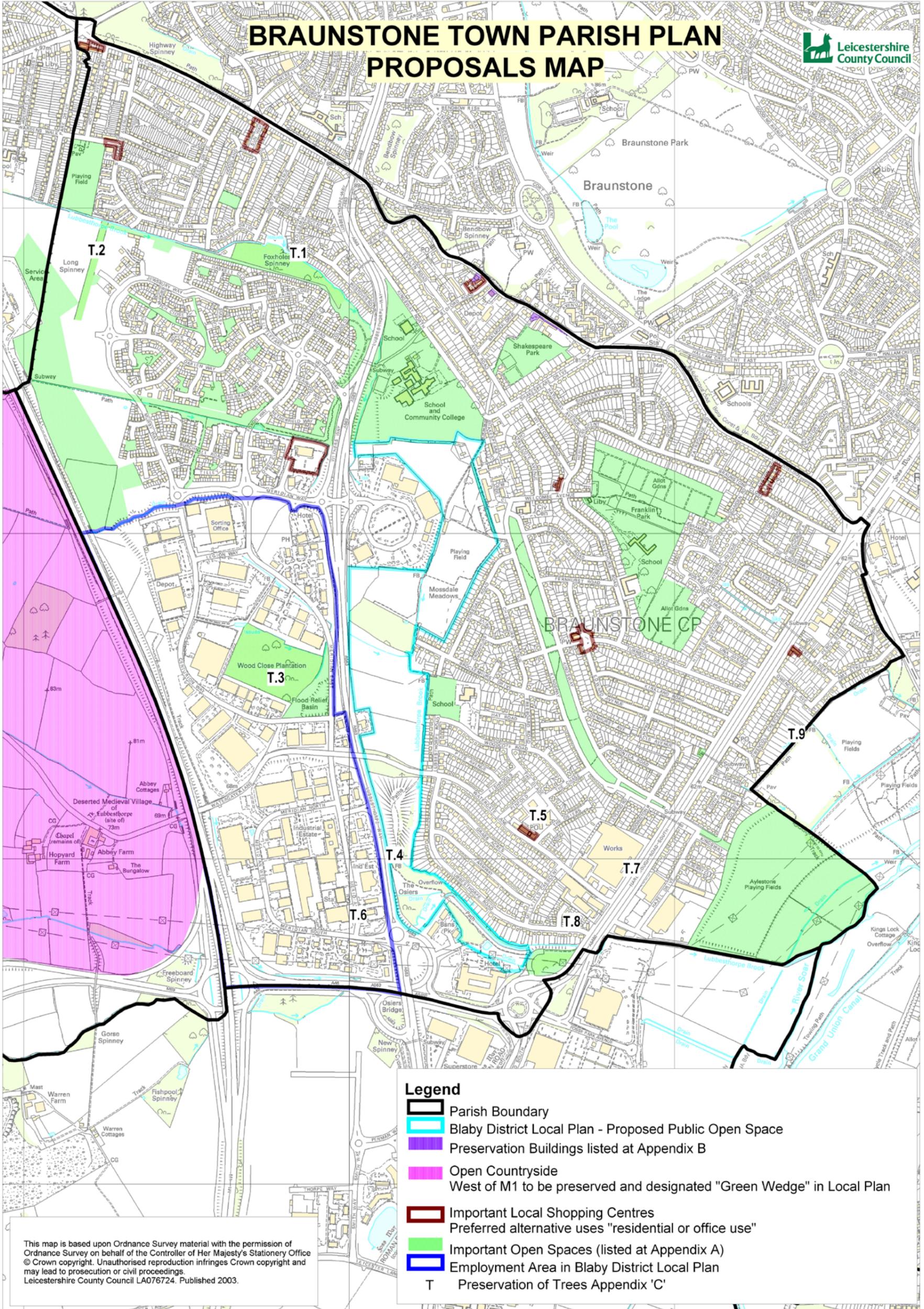
The Thorpe Astley Community Appraisal completed in March 2000 highlighted a need for recreational open space (76% of respondents identified a need for football pitches whilst 66% also wanted tennis courts to be provided). 86% of respondents to the Parish Plan Survey thought that the open countryside to the west of the M1 should be preserved and designated as Green Wedge in the Local Plan.

LOCAL SHOPPING

Whilst 72% of respondents visited Fosse Park for their shopping needs at least once a week, neighbourhood shopping centres act as an important focal point for the community. The Local Plan allows alternative uses, other than retail development, providing they do not unacceptably reduce the ability of the centre to meet local shopping needs. These centres are particularly valuable to people who do not have their own transport. 50.6% of respondents visited Post Offices at least once a week, whilst an average of 33% visited other local shops at least once a week. Local residents would be happy with the following alternative uses in these centres:- residential and office use (including taxi operators). The survey demonstrated that there was a need in the local shopping centres for additional Grocery Store, Chemists, DIY Outlet and a butchers. A majority of 59% of respondents thought the Town Council should play an active role in helping to regenerate these areas by improving street furniture and providing festive decorations and hanging baskets.



BRAUNSTONE TOWN PARISH PLAN PROPOSALS MAP



Legend

- Parish Boundary
- Blaby District Local Plan - Proposed Public Open Space
- Preservation Buildings listed at Appendix B
- Open Countryside
West of M1 to be preserved and designated "Green Wedge" in Local Plan
- Important Local Shopping Centres
Preferred alternative uses "residential or office use"
- Important Open Spaces (listed at Appendix A)
- Employment Area in Blaby District Local Plan
- Preservation of Trees Appendix 'C'

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Planning (continued)

LOCAL SHOPPING CONTINUED

The Thorpe Astley Community Appraisal completed in March 2000 highlighted a need for smaller retail units to serve the Local Community (Newsagent, Chemist, Post Office, etc). Planning permission should be granted for small retail units on the Aldi site or change of use given favourable consideration in the residential areas.



PRESERVATION OF TREES, HEDGEROWS AND BUILDINGS

There are three Listed Buildings in Braunstone Town:- Shakespeare Public House, the Manor 252 Braunstone Lane and the shop at 226 Braunstone Lane. Other trees, hedgerows and important buildings are identified on the Parish Plan Proposals Map and listed in Appendix 'B' and Appendix 'C'.

ALTERNATIVE USES FOR NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH EMPLOYMENT AREA

Land on both sides of Narborough Road South (Jones & Shipman, etc, and adjacent to Asda) is designated in the Blaby District Local Plan as being a 'Primarily Employment Area' (Business, General Industrial Storage/Distributions). Part of this area (the Jones & Shipman site) has been granted consent for residential development. 29.2% of respondents thought the remaining employment area should be retained for commercial purposes whilst 32.1% thought that residential use should be considered as an alternative. Other alternatives suggested included to develop the area as open space/parkland or other community facilities.

"Let's not build on any more green land. I would like to see our little Town keep its own unique identity and not get swallowed up by extra development."

PARK & RIDE

Traffic pollution has been identified as an increasing problem. 57.1% of respondents supported Braunstone Town Council's opposition to a Park & Ride site in the vicinity of Junction 21 or in open countryside areas designated as Green Wedge in the Local Plan.

AIR QUALITY

Fosse Park, together with the M1 and Narborough Road South corridors have been designated as 'Air Quality Management Areas' by Blaby District Council. The survey reveals that most residents thought that tree planting (62.7%) followed by a School Walking Bus Scheme (23.7%) would be the most popular methods of offsetting the effects of traffic pollution. Other ideas put forward included:- improving traffic flows, and improving public transport in order to reduce traffic.



Environment

THE ISSUES:

- Grass Verges
- Dog Fouling
- Street Cleansing
- Footpaths and Bridleways
- Recycling

GRASS VERGES

65.7% of respondents to the Parish Plan Survey thought that the state of the grass verges was satisfactory whilst 18% said they were in poor condition. The majority thought that the main cause of their bad condition was parked cars. The worst locations were highlighted by the survey. These included Kingsway, Braunstone Lane and Thorpe Astley.

DOG FOULING

29% of residents stated that a reduction in dog fouling would enhance the natural environment.

"We are fortunate to have several nice parks. The only problem is glass and litter which can be dangerous to children and animals – dog fouling is a problem in most areas."

REFUSE COLLECTION & STREET CLEANING

Over 86% of respondents were satisfied with the refuse collection services provided by Blaby District Council. There was a 56% satisfaction rate with the street cleansing service. However, problem areas appeared to be outside local shopping centres and schools, at Thorpe Astley (including Aldi), Bramble Way/Camden Road Alleyway and subways.

FOOTPATHS & BRIDLEWAYS

Residents were asked what difficulties they had in using footpaths and bridleways. 37.9% stated that dog fouling was a problem. Most of those who responded were not aware of the location of the footpaths and bridleways and stated that leaflets were needed to raise awareness of local walks.

RECYCLING

Over 58.7% of respondents used the local recycling facilities. Only 10.2% said they were unable to transport materials to the location and another 7.1% said the bins had insufficient capacity. Several respondents commented that there were no recycling facilities at Thorpe Astley.

A worrying number of people who responded to the survey said that they were not interested in recycling.



THE VISION

- Considerate parking so as to avoid damage to grass verges
- Reduce dog fouling and provide a cleaner environment
- Reduce litter outside local shopping centres and schools
- Raise awareness of our footpaths and bridleway network
- Increase residents' participation in recycling activities



Young People & Leisure

THE ISSUES:

- Youth Groups
- Play Areas
- Facilities for 11-14 year olds

YOUTH GROUPS

Only a small percentage of young people who responded to the survey attended Youth Groups. The main reason given for non attendance was that they did not know where the Youth Groups were or that their friends did not go to them. However 52 individuals stated that they would attend Groups if they were open more often. A limited number of young people would attend Youth Clubs if they were located closer to home.

PLAY AREAS

When asked to rate the play equipment in each of Braunstone Town's parks, 57% said that the equipment at Mossdale Meadows was 'very good' or 'good', whilst 51% thought it was 'very good' or 'good' at Shakespeare Park. 56% and 57% thought that the equipment was 'poor' or 'very poor' at Franklin Park and Holmfield Park respectively.

"I would recommend a taster session to encourage not so confident youngsters to try youth clubs."

In order of priority a small number of respondents suggested that new equipped play areas should be established at the following locations:- Thorpe Astley (9), Aylestone Meadows (7), Kingsway Central Reservation (6), and Woodland Drive (3).

THE VISION

- To support social and sporting opportunities for young people
- Improve Franklin Park and Holmfield Park play areas and provide equipment for older children

The Braunstone Town Youth Council survey was completed in May 2001. The findings from "What activities would encourage you to use the park?" highlighted a need for a Skatepark, closely followed by an Adventure Park and a BMX track.

"Which local parks do you use the most?" confirmed that Mossdale Meadows is the most highly accessed with Franklin Park coming a close second.

"What else would you like to see in the park?" highlighted concerns with lighting, toilet facilities and shelters being a major need.

LEISURE

The survey showed that, whilst 63.9% of people visited Meridian Leisure on a regular basis, 18.6% of young people enjoyed shopping, 8.6% played sport and only 1.9% attended youth clubs.

When asked what other leisure pursuits they would like to see in Braunstone Town the most popular responses, in order of priority, were swimming, skateboard facilities and a convenient Sports/Leisure Centre. A small number of respondents indicated that if they could get a bus easily they would like to visit the Meridian Leisure Complex, Doghouse Skateboarding (Narborough Road) and Enderby Leisure Centre.

**Braunstone Town Parish Plan
Working Group**

Action Plan

The Summary

NOTE: The Priorities and Time Scales were agreed following extensive consultation at the Parish Plan Public Exhibition held on 4th October 2003 – See 'Methodology' on Page 3 of the Parish Plan.

Traffic & Transport Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
Parked vehicles (High / Long Term – will require extensive negotiation & funding)	Considerate parking and improved disabled access	Encourage parking restriction schemes and enforcement action in problem areas identified herein	a) You – it is up to every driver to consider the access needs of the disabled and not park on pavements, etc b) Local Shops and customers c) Leicestershire Police d) Leicestershire County Council
Speeding vehicles / Reduction of speed limits (High / Long Term – will require extensive negotiation & funding)	Speed reduction throughout the Town and to ensure vehicles are driven with care and consideration	Support for more enforcement, improved signage and the investigation of speed reduction schemes such as 'Home Action Zones'	a) You – it is up to every driver to drive at a safe speed appropriate to the road conditions b) Leicestershire Police c) Leicestershire County Council
Pavements (Medium / Long Term – will require extensive negotiation & funding)	Improved accessibility for people with disabilities and pushchair users	Encourage the highway authority to undertake a survey and take appropriate action to improve accessibility in the subways, local shopping centres and the pedestrian crossings at Fosse Park Avenue and Narborough Road South/Braunstone Lane junction	Leicestershire County Council
Asda Island (High / Long Term – will require extensive negotiation & funding)	The Asda Island to be made as safe as possible	Raise awareness of people's views that the Asda Island is considered to be dangerous and ask the Highway Authority to investigate and carry out improvements	a) Leicestershire County Council b) Enderby Parish Council (to be asked to support the action)
Public Transport (Medium / Ongoing)	A co-ordinated public transport system that is more responsive to people's needs	Encourage the establishment of a community transport initiative involving the voluntary sector and commercial operators so as to provide services responsive to the needs of the local community	Leicestershire County Council, other Parish Council's, Braunstone Town Community Minibus, bus service operators, social car scheme, Urban Bus Challenge
Access to Schools (Low / Ongoing)	Reduce traffic at peak times and minimise the 'school run'	Lobby the education authority to investigate all possible alternatives to the school run (walking bus, car sharing, school travel plans)	a) Parents b) All schools c) Leicestershire Education Authority

Crime & Community Safety Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
Effective Policing (High / Short Term)	A higher profile and more visible police service that is responsive to the needs of the town	Lobby for more effective community policing and tackle the issues identified herein to reduce the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour	Leicestershire Police, Blaby District Crime and Disorder Partnership, Braunstone Town Council, Youth Offending Teams
Street Lighting (Medium / Short Term – possible funding identified through Blaby District Crime and Disorder Partnership)	Improve street lighting in locations where there is a fear of crime	Lobby for improved street lighting in the following areas:- Thorpe Astley (including Jewsbury Way and Murby Way), Braunstone Lane/St Mary's Avenue Junction, Narborough Road South subways and jitties at Millfield School and Camden Road	Blaby District Crime and Disorder Partnership, Leicestershire County Council (Community Safety Lighting Programme), Leicestershire Police
CCTV (Medium / Long Term – will require extensive negotiation & funding)	CCTV in areas where there is a fear of crime	Lobby for the provision of monitored CCTV systems in the subways and other areas where there is a fear of crime	Leicestershire County Council, Leicestershire Police, Blaby District Crime and Disorder Partnership, Leicester City Council

Leisure & Recreation Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
Raising Awareness of Social and Sporting Opportunities (Low / Ongoing)	To raise awareness of all local sporting and leisure opportunities	Investigate any methods of improving information about sporting and social opportunities including the possibility of starting a community partnership and/or an information pack	Braunstone Town Council, Winstanley Community College, Millfield Community Centre, Braunstone West Social Centre, St Crispins
Community Centre at Thorpe Astley (Medium / Long Term – will require extensive negotiation & funding)	To provide a new Community Centre (Thorpe Astley)	To continue to lobby for the provision of a new Community Centre	Developers, Blaby District Council, Braunstone Town Council, Thorpe Astley Community Partnership, Thorpe Astley Community Association
Swimming (Medium / Short Term)	To encourage more opportunities for swimming	To encourage Winstanley Community College to extend the opening times of public swimming sessions and negotiate swimming concessions for new facilities in the city	Winstanley Community College, Leicester City Council

22

Education Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
Adult Education (Low / Ongoing)	Raise awareness of adult education opportunities	Encourage Winstanley Community College to respond to the issues identified herein and take steps to raise awareness of the opportunities offered, review the subjects offered and the timing of those courses	Winstanley Community College, Leicestershire Learning & Skills Council
Pre-School (Low / Short Term – Dependant on funding)	Increase pre-school activities in Braunstone Town	To encourage the establishment of a Early Years Development Partnership to increase pre-school facilities and activities and secure new funding opportunities	Local schools, Winstanley Community College, Leicestershire Education Authority

Library Service Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
Raising Awareness of Local Libraries (High / Ongoing)	Increased usage by raising awareness of the opening hours, locations and range of library services available	Encourage Leicestershire County Council to improve publicity and raise awareness of the range of local services available	Leicestershire County Council
Additional Services (Low / Long Term – will require extensive negotiation & funding)	Improve the range of services provided in local libraries (particularly for children)	Encourage Leicestershire County Council Library Services to provide the additional services identified herein	Leicestershire County Council

Health Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
New Surgery (Medium / Medium Term – subject to site identification)	The provision of a surgery to meet the demands created by new housing developments	To continue to lobby for a new surgery in order to reduce pressure on the existing medical practices	South Leicestershire Primary Care Trust, Kingsway Surgery, Blaby District Council
Improvement / Expansion of Existing Surgeries (Medium / Medium Term – linked to previous item)	Improved waiting areas and other patient services	To lobby for improvements identified herein such as opening times and improved waiting areas.	South Leicestershire Primary Care Trust, Kingsway Surgery, Forest House Medical Practice

Planning Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
Preservation of Open Spaces (High / Ongoing)	Preservation of all existing open spaces and protect them from future development	In order to preserve our much valued open spaces we request Blaby District Council to adopt policies herein as supplementary planning guidance where possible and in the review of the Blaby District Local Plan	Braunstone Town Council, Blaby District Council
Local Shopping Needs (High / Ongoing)	Maintain the viability of local shopping centres to meet the needs of the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To monitor planning applications and use the policies herein as supplementary planning guidance when considering applications for change of use b) Inform the Review of the Blaby District Local Plan c) Improve the appearance and viability of local shopping centres by encouraging the provision of street furniture/festive decorations/hanging baskets, etc 	Braunstone Town Council, Blaby District Council, Local Shopkeepers
Preservation of trees, hedgerows and buildings (High / Ongoing)	Retention of all existing trees, hedgerows and historic buildings and protect them from future development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) In order to preserve the natural environment we request Blaby District Council to adopt policies herein as supplementary planning guidance b) Inform the Review of the Blaby District Local Plan c) To preserve our historic buildings we request that Blaby District Council creates a conservation area in Braunstone Lane (between the Shakespeare Public House and the listed shop building) and also to use the policies herein as supplementary guidance 	Braunstone Town Council, Blaby District Council
Park & Ride Sites (Low / Ongoing – until site is identified)	No Park & Ride site in the vicinity of Junction 21 of the M1 and to protect 'green wedges' from inappropriate future development	Request all appropriate planning authorities use the policies herein as supplementary planning guidance and inform the review of the Blaby District Local Plan, the Central Leicestershire Local Transport Plan and the emerging Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Structure Plan	Braunstone Town Council, Blaby District Council, Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council.
Air Quality (High / Ongoing)	Extension of Air Quality Management Areas, help offset the effects of traffic pollution by encouraging more large scale tree planting schemes on our open spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Request Blaby District Council to review the Air Quality Management Areas b) Request Blaby District Council and Leicestershire County Council to use the policies herein as supplementary planning guidance and secure developer funding for large scale tree planting / landscaping schemes c) Inform the Review of the Blaby District Local Plan 	Blaby District Council Braunstone Town Council, Blaby District Council, Leicestershire County Council

Environment Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
Grass Verges (Low / Ongoing)	Considerate parking so as to avoid damage to grass verges	Encourage more off-street parking and support any schemes to reduce damage to grass verges, particularly in the Kingsway, Braunstone Lane, and Thorpe Astley areas	a) You - it is up to every driver to park within the curtilage of their own property and reduce on-street parking b) Leicestershire County Council
Dog Fouling (High / Ongoing)	Reduce dog fouling and provide a cleaner environment	Encourage Blaby District Council to take more enforcement action. Empty dog waste bins more frequently	a) You – it is up to every dog owner to clear up after their pet b) Blaby District Council c) Braunstone Town Council
Street Cleansing (High / Ongoing)	Reduce litter outside local shopping centres and schools	Provide more litter bins and improve street cleansing service at local shopping centres (including Aldi), schools, Bramble Way/Camden Road alleyway and the higher maintenance standards in subways	You – It is up to everyone to help create a cleaner environment, take litter home or use the bins provided Blaby District Council
Footpaths and bridleways (Medium / Short Term)	Raise awareness of our footpath and bridleway network	Promote the Town Council's 'Golden Jubilee Walks' leaflet and encourage Leicestershire County Council to produce more leaflets on local walks.	Braunstone Town Council, Leicestershire County Council
Recycling (Medium / Ongoing)	Increase residents' participation in recycling activities	Encourage Blaby District Council to extend the garden waste scheme and investigate how a wider range of recycling facilities (including community skips) can be provided locally. Establish a recycling facility at Thorpe Astley	Blaby District Council, Leicestershire County Council, Household Waste Strategy Partnership

Young People & Leisure Issues

ISSUE (Priority / time)	VISION	ACTION	PARTNERS
Youth Groups (Medium* / Ongoing)	To support social and sporting opportunities for young people	Support Youth Workers in providing purposeful activities for young people and secure new funding opportunities	The whole community, all existing youth workers, Blaby District Council, Braunstone Town Council, Leicestershire County Council Youth Service, schools
Play Areas (Medium* / Long Term – subject to funding being secured)	Improve Franklin Park and Holmfield Park play areas and provide equipment for older children	Investigation and provision of some recreational facilities for older children (11-14 years) and identify new funding opportunities	Braunstone Town Council, Youth Groups, Braunstone Town Youth Council

* The Working Group acknowledged that the low number of young people attending the exhibition on 4th October 2003 was not representative. Youth issues have therefore been given a 'Medium Term' priority to reflect previous surveys and consultations.

Appendix A

IMPORTANT OPEN SPACES AND TO INCLUDE GROUPS OF ESTABLISHED TREES AND HEDGEROWS

Allotments (Rosamund Avenue)
Allotments (Bramble Way)
Aylestone Playing Fields
Flood Relief Basin – Meridian East
Franklin Park
Holmfield Park
Kingsway School Playing Fields
Kingsway South and Kingsway Central Reservation
Millfield School Playing Fields
The Osiers (adjacent to Narborough Road South West Service Road)
Ravenhurst School Playing Fields
Shakespeare Park
Small open space near Bus Stop / Subway – Narborough Road South West Service Road
Thorpe Astley – Watercourse Linear Open Space
Thorpe Astley – Land designated for Playing Fields in Master Plan
Thorpe Astley – Play areas (Hillcott Green, Impey Close, Isobella Road, Priestman Road)
Thorpe Astley – Village Green
Thorpe Astley – Linear open space adjacent to Foxholes Spinney
Thorpe Astley – Areas of open space at the following locations:- Haskell Close (2), between Goodheart Way and Marshall Close, Smart Close, Gavin Close, Impey Close, Isobella Road, Tilley Close, Netherfield Way, Gregory's Close, Ferrars Court, Sherard Way and Seacole Close.
Winstanley Community College Grounds and Playing Fields
Woodland Drive

Appendix B

LISTED BUILDINGS

Shakespeare Public House – Braunstone Lane
Manor House – Braunstone Lane
Bidford News Shop – Braunstone Lane

Appendix C

PRESERVATION OF TREES / HEDGEROWS

- T.1** Foxholes Spinney, Tree Preservation Order 1990
- T.2** Long Spinney, Tree Preservation Order 1990
- T.3** Area of woodland identified as worth preserving in the Parish Plan
- T.4** The Osiers, Tree Preservation Order 1980
- T.5** A group of 3 trees at rear of shops on Watergate Lane, Tree Preservation Order 1975
- T.6** A Poplar tree at McDonalds site, Meridian South, Tree Preservation Order 1999
- T.7** Line of trees fronting Narborough Road South West Service Road, former Jones & Shipman site
- T.8** Land at corner of Lubbesthorpe Road and Narborough Road South, group of trees, Tree Preservation Order 1993
- T.9** Oak tree at rear of 20 Gwencole Crescent



Braunstone Town **PARISH PLAN**



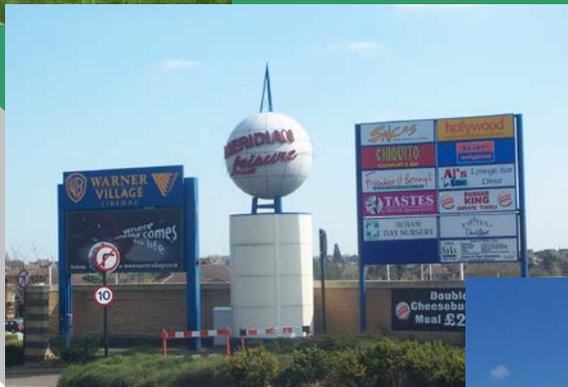
- *Supplementary Planning Guidance and to Inform the Review of the Local Plan*



- *A way to influence decisions by other authorities*
- *A basis for action by the people in the Town*



- *A route to winning funds for local initiatives*



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